

The Board Talk

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April 1997

New Season Brings Shufflers Choice Line-up of Events Coast to Coast

By George & Donna Wilber

Spring -- the season of renewal and growth and hope -- and for shufflers across the nation, it heralds a new line-up of events from which to choose. Some of those events are "old" in terms of years, like the Bourbon, Indiana, Spring Doubles (No. 36!). Others are new events in old locations and old events in new locations. Whatever the situation, the action-packed Calendar of Shuffleboard Events for Spring 1997 certainly indicates a renewal and growth for our sport and provides hope to a multitude of shufflers who yearn to be in the winner's circle at one or more of these events. Whether you're a player who prefers to stay close to home or a travelling shuffler, there's opportunities galore for you. Check the Calendar of Events and the Upcoming Events column for more details. Here are just a few of the highlights.....



APRIL

Oklahoma -- That first-class shuffleboard tournament site, the American Legion Post 73 in Del City, Oklahoma, will host a Heartland Handicap on April 18-20. A draw partner is scheduled for Friday at 7 p.m. and a bring partner on Saturday at 5 p.m. Entry fee for each is \$25 and it's 2 out of 3 in the winner's bracket, single game in the loser's bracket. For information, call Ron Huddleston at 405-843-1615 or E-mail: RHUDD@worldnet.att.net.

Washington -- BZ's in Buriën, Washington, will add \$500 to the pot for their 5th Annual Shuffleboard Classic on April 18-20. Action will start Friday night at 7 with an A-B Draw, \$20 entry fee, single elimination. The doubles, \$50 per team entry, will start with a sale at 11 a.m. on Saturday. This will be a double elimination, 2 out of 3 in the winner's bracket event. For information, call Craig at 206-243-6018 or Jim Foran at 206-474-2724.

Indiana -- A new event at a new location, with the Fall Creek Valley Amvet Post 26 in Pendleton, Indiana, hosting the 1st Annual Spring Open on April 19-20. An open doubles, \$20 per player, is on the agenda for Saturday and an open singles, \$20 entry, on Sunday. Sponsor sales are at 11 a.m. each day and both are double elimination events. For information, call Sonny Harris at 765-778-7224.

Arizona -- The 2nd Annual Bill Gibbs Memorial Tournament is scheduled for April 25-27 at Family Billiards (The Bar) in Glendale, Arizona. An A-B Draw is set for Friday, 7 p.m., \$10 per person entry; an ABC Draw, \$30 per team on Saturday at 10 a.m., and an open doubles, \$50 per person, on Saturday starting at 6 p.m. The finals for the ABC Draw and open doubles will start at 10 a.m. Sunday. For information, call Bob Lewis, 602-242-6782; Al Salazar, 602-547-1324; Alice Arredondo, 602-849-1845; or host Bob VanAlstyne, 602-939-4000.

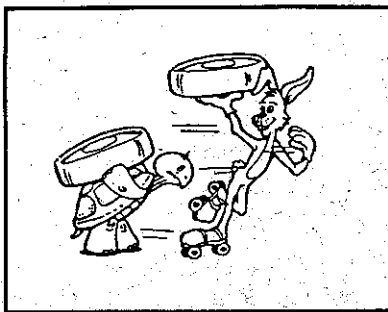
MAY

New York, Washington, Oklahoma, Colorado, Michigan, Oregon, California -- Memorial Day weekend 1997 really is a "shuffler's choice" with at least seven (that were reported) events scheduled for different parts of the country.

At the Riverside Hotel in Earlville, New York, there will be a 4-event tournament -- mixed doubles, singles, draw partner and bring partner, plus round robins. For information, call host Roger Sawyer (who is adding \$500 to the bring partner tourney) at 315-691-3081, or Dale Law, 607-674-6580.

It's a new location for the 16th Annual Lilac City Memorial Tournament -- Rod's Drive Inn Tavern in Spokane, Washington. Events include a singles, A-B

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Shufflers' Notebook

News and Views from The World of Shuffleboard

Virgin Looking for the Big One (a Tournament Win, that is....)

Awhile back, I went up to Tulsa, Oklahoma, to a place called Jimmy L's for a tournament. Jimmy has a nice, clean place with three good boards that are very well kept up. He goes out of his way to make everybody feel at home. Bill Strickland made a buffet of beans and about four different kinds of corn bread and all the fixings. Boy, were they good!

There were a whole lot of people there that I had met at Wynnewood, the American Legion in Del City, and Bristol Station in Midwest City where I'm from. I visited with everyone and talked shuffleboard and The Board Talk and how much we enjoy your publication. Then I looked over and there sat John Cason and his friends. I thought -- now, I'm going to keep an eye on him and see if he disappears into the shadows (Jimmy L's has smoke eaters). I knew that might be hard to do and play my games, but I vowed to try.

I entered the blind draw and got Zane Porter for a partner. As teams came up against us, we just slayed them. They fell to the left and then to the right (a slight exaggeration). Everybody was saying: "Boy, that's the team that nobody bought," "There may be some red faces around here." And I thought -- you dad-gummed right!

Then we came up on Keith Oyler and Cliff Goff and so quick it would make your head swim, they had us down in the second frame 9 to 1. I looked down the table at Zane and he looked back at me and I thought: no damn way we will let them have it without a good fight. I saw the determination jump into Zane's eyes and we went to work and came back and had them down 13 to 11. In the last frame, all I had to do was stick on one of Cliff's weights (he had 2 on the board) and he would have to lag

for a 4 and take a chance of going off and giving Zane the hammer coming back -- or stick on my weight for 2 and Zane would have the hammer, or hit my weight and go off and Zane would have the hammer. Well, I thought: "We are going to win this game" and I jumped up there and shot the worst shot of my life! I mean I missed everything on the board -- screwed up deluxe! Cliff lagged an easy 2 for 4 points and out they went. It was a heartbreaker and I could hardly look at Zane after I made such a stupid, virginal mistake.

We found out that we were up now against two of my heroes, Sally Goff and Bill Melton. You'd think that wouldn't strike fear in the heart of a virgin? I was in such awe of them that I became a chattering idiot. I don't even remember what happened in the game. I just know that Bill Melton rolled over me like I wasn't even there and Zane had his hands full on the other end with Sally. We were put out by two of my favorite players. I just really hate that we didn't make a better showing, but the experience will make it better next time. I came up to play someone of their calibre so I'd have to say, all in all, the tournament was a good experience for me.

While all of that was going on, I kept an eye on John Cason. At one point, he left the shuffleboard room and went past the bar and the beans and corn bread buffet and past the pool tables into the men's room. I hung around the bar. The place was jam-packed so nobody seemed to notice this old gal watching the men's room door. John came out and I sort of turned my back and watched out of the corner of my eye. He came past the pool tables and the beans and cornbread, and past the bar and back to the shuffleboard room and started to play his game. So I got me some of them good ole beans that Bill fixed and a big old square of sausage cornbread. They had to be the best I ever set a lip to! I visited some of the local players and some of my friends from down in southern Oklahoma and kept my eye on John Cason. John made a couple more trips to the men's room -- past the bar, past the beans and cornbread and the pool tables. Each time I watched him out of the corner of my eye and I thought, boy, I'm getting good at this stuff. I thought by now I could qualify to be a Virgin Dick Tracy.

While John was in the shuffleboard room, I went back and got a second helping of them beans. The sausage cornbread was all gone, so I got me some plain ole cornbread and a big chunk of raw onion. I took my food back to the shuffleboard room and sat down with my mind on eating and got everything like I wanted it and ordered a Coke. I was all set to eat and looked up and

(continued on Page 14)

--ATTENTION--

If you have a red check below, it means your subscription has expired. Use the form inside to renew NOW so you won't miss next month's issue!

New Season *(continued from Page 1)*

draw, and open doubles (\$500 added). See enclosed flyer for details and call M.P. at 509-921-8010 or Dan at 509-489-4877 for further information. This is an ESA-sanctioned tournament.

The 11th Annual Arbuckle Open will be held at Prim's Wagon Wheel in Wynnewood, Oklahoma. See host Al Primrose's letter in Notebook and watch for more details in next month's Board Talk. Call Al at 405-665-2566.

The Balloon Inn, Arvada, Colorado, will host a Division II singles (\$25) and bring partner doubles (\$50 team), with sales on Friday night and competition starting at noon on Saturday and Sunday. For information, call Gwen or Ron at 303-425-9823.

The 4th Annual Memorial Day Tournament at Wetlands Bar & Grill in Royal Oak, Michigan, will include an open singles and open doubles, both 2 out of 3, double elimination. For information, call Mike Papa at Wetlands, 810-543-2626, or John McDermott at The Shuffleboard Federation, 810-380-9300.

The Tolo Tavern in Central Point, Oregon, will host an ESA-sanctioned tournament that will include a draw partner, \$20, on the 23rd at 7 p.m.; singles \$25, on the 24th with sale at 10 a.m.; doubles, \$50 team, on the 25th with sale at 10 a.m. A Saturday buffet will be served. For information, call Pat at the Tolo Tavern, 541-664-2656.

Blinky's in Santa Clara, California, will host another Memorial Weekend Tournament. Watch for details in the next issue. For information, call Barbara at Blinky's, 408-241-3933, or E-mail: Blinky2@ix.netcom.com.

(Editor's Note: This is only a partial listing of upcoming events. Please check the Calendar of Events and Upcoming Events Across the Nation for more shuffleboard activities.)

THE CALENDAR: A CLEARING HOUSE

From the time Spring started on March 20 until it gives way to Summer on June 21, there were/are 42 scheduled tournaments on the calendar. That's a lot of action in one season! The Calendar of Events was first published back in 1984 to serve as sort of a "clearing house" for tournament directors and alert them of possible conflicts. That original purpose still stands, but the only way it will work effectively is for people to list their events EARLY! We salute those who have planned ahead and entered their dates (and particularly those who advertise). Nothing is more frustrating to us than to promote a tournament that will be over with by the time subscribers receive the newsletter.

It costs only 32 cents to get your event listed on the calendar and it remains there until it's been held. Can you afford not to make that investment?

Barbara's Beer Garden Wins Missouri Bragging Rights

The 15th Annual Miller-Lite City-Wide Tournament, with a maximum 20 team field, was played this year at Gravey's Lounge in Springfield, Missouri, on Feb. 28-March 1. According to reporter Woodie Cockrum, the Miller Lite is the "Grand Daddy" of all the tournaments running annually in Missouri, mainly because of its unique format.

"The scoring bracket shows the name of the sponsors, not the players," explained Woodie. "Mike Arthur, an employee of Premium Beverage, is the tournament director. The tournament is played at a different tavern each year. It started back in 1982 with the taverns in Springfield paying the entry fees for their top players, in hopes they could bring the championship back to their tavern. There's a lot of clout to the players who wear the personalized jackets around town.

"However, the desire to win became so strong that top players began to sneak in. Mike's feelings were: if we are going to cheat, we will just make cheating legal. This allowed taverns to sponsor teams from outside the city," Woodie said.

Some of those "outside" teams were the Pitstop of Houston, one team; the Eagles Lodge 3911 of Houston, three teams; Sonny Boys of Cuba, one team; and Family Affair, St. Louis, one team.



First-place and bragging rights for 1997 go to Barbara's Beer Garden of Springfield, with players Connie McCall and Woodie Cockrum.

(continued on Page 7)

We're Moving!

**The new address for The Board Talk and
George & Donna Wilber is: 503 E.
Sheridan, Lansing, MI 48906
Phone: 517-484-4976**

Upcoming Events Across the Nation

(Check the New Season article on Pages 1 and 3 for more information on upcoming events and the Calendar of Events for other tournaments not listed here. Use the "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." listing in the March issue for phone numbers to call for details.)

Indiana

MEMORIAL DOUBLES, MISSISSINEWA TAVERN, APRIL 12

The Mississinewa Tavern, 125 W. Harris, Eaton, will host the Arnold Cross Memorial Doubles Tournament on April 12. Entry fee for the double elimination event, played on two boards, is \$30 per team and is limited to the first 24 teams signed up.

Play will begin immediately following the 11 a.m. sponsor sale and payoff is 60-30-10. This event will also feature a barbecue cookout.

For further information, call the Mississinewa Tavern at 317-396-9371.

BOARD TALK REUNION QUALIFIER, THE PALACE, FAIRMOUNT, APRIL 26

It will be five fun-filled, hot competition-loaded days at the Locker Bar in Marion, June 11-15, as the Voorhis Family hosts the 13th Annual Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion (see enclosed form and article on Page 6).

A qualifier to earn entries will be held at The Palace in Fairmount on April 26. It's a doubles, \$40 per team entry with sale at noon and play following on two boards. Participation will determine number of paid entries awarded. For further information, call Bobby at The Palace, 317-948-9102.

36TH ANNUAL SPRING DOUBLES, BOURBON, MAY 3

The American Legion Post 424 in Bourbon, Indiana, will host its 36th Annual Spring Doubles on May 3. Entry fee is \$50 per team with 100 percent payout based on the number of teams entered. It's a single game, double elimination event played on five in-house boards.

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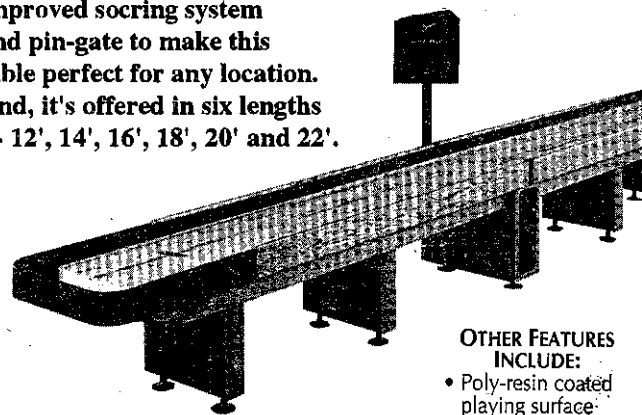
All boards are now available with 4-3-2-1 scoring. Old playfields can be refinished to accommodate this new score system.

"The new score system allows novice and pro players to compete equally in every frame. If the game is tied 13 to 13, the novice player has an equal chance to score and win."

--Bob Shaw, Fort Worth, Texas

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Action will begin with a \$20 draw partner event on Friday, May 2, at 2 p.m., with the sponsor sale for Saturday's main event at 8 p.m. Friday. Play for the doubles will start at 9 a.m. on Saturday.

There's an extra incentive this year for this popular tournament that attracts participation from many states. The winners will receive \$250 worth of entry fees monies to the 1997 North American Shuffleboard Championships in Reno, Nevada, scheduled for Oct. 27-Nov. 2. The Shuffleboard Federation is also donating a free set of Federation weights for a drawing with all tournament players eligible to win. The traditional chicken barbecue will also be part of this big event.

Send your entries now to the American Legion Post 424, 202 S. Main St., Bourbon, IN 46504, att.: Bill Niswonger or Terry Dowell.

Please post the enclosed flyer in your favorite shuffleboard site to spread the word about this BIG one!

Texas

1ST ANNUAL LONE STAR CLASSIC, GOLD NUGGET, ARLINGTON, MAY 1-4

The Gold Nugget, 2602 West Division St., Arlington, Texas, now under the ownership and management of Cindy Yarbrough and Bob Houchin, will host its 1st Annual Lone Star Classic on May 1-4. This FIRST will provide opportunities for players of all skill levels, from pros to novices during the four days of action on six boards -- plus two practice boards. Come early for the round robins that will take place all day Wednesday.

There will be a Most Valuable Player Award up for grabs. MVP entry fees and added money will be combined and paid out 60-30-10 to the three players who have earned the most points over the four days of tournament play.

The Gold Nugget will provide free lunches on Friday and Saturday. Hotel accommodations are located nearby and there is parking available for RVs.

See complete details on the enclosed flyer and share that information with others. Plan now to show Cindy and Bob your support in their new venture by participating in this event. They will also be hosting the Texas Open on Aug. 27-Sept. 1 and the Thanksgiving Classic on Nov. 26-30. For information, call Bob or Cindy at 817-277-4029.

Take a Minute!

***Take a minute to thank those who support
your shuffleboard communications vehicle
with their advertising dollars.***

This newsletter couldn't "live" without them!

Washington

7TH ANNUAL DRAW PARTNER, SHAMROCK, LONGVIEW, MAY 3-4

The Shamrock Tavern in Longview will host its 7th Annual Draw Partner Tournament on May 3-4. Entry fee is \$20 per player, with \$10 per player added by the tavern. Sponsor sale starts at noon on May 3, with play following. Format will be 2 out of 3 in the winner's bracket and one game in the loser's bracket.

Come early for the \$10 round robins on Friday night. Food by Bernice will be served on Saturday and Sunday.

For information, call the Shamrock at 206-577-7444.

Missouri

SPRING "DOUBLE DIPPER" AT SONNY BOYS, CUBA, APRIL 18-19

Sonny Boys, 121 W. Main St., Cuba, Missouri, will host a Spring Double Dipper on April 18-19. An A-B Draw is on the schedule for Friday, 6 p.m., \$10 entry fee per player and Sonny Boys will add \$5 per team. This event is limited to 24 players.

A bring your partner doubles will take place on Saturday beginning at 10 a.m. Players with a rating of -1, 1, and 0 must bring a partner with a rating of 2 or higher. Entry fee is \$15 per player and Sonny Boys will add \$5 per team to the pot. Limited to 32 players so sign up early.

For further information, call Sonny Boys at 573-885-7488. A Mid-Summer Double Dipper is scheduled for June 6-7.

Pennsylvania

3-EVENT TOURNEY AT J & C'S, PHILADELPHIA, APRIL 18-20

J & C's Tavern, 6601 Lansdowne Ave., Philadelphia, will host a 3-event tournament on April 18-20. Action will start with an open draw, \$10 entry, on Friday night. A bring partner is scheduled for Saturday, \$25 entry, and an open singles on Sunday, \$25 entry.

For information, call J & C's, 215-878-7343, or Jim Yank at 215-879-0840.

J & C's will also host A-B Draws on April 4, May 2, and June 6, and will host the 1st Pennsylvania State Championships on Nov. 28-30.

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As The Puck Turns.....

By George & Donna Wilber

In last month's issue, we announced that we and The Board Talk would be moving across the street by March 20. We were a bit over-optimistic! The renovation is taking longer than we expected with our limited time away from Donna's Mom. Between now and the actual moving date, we'll be checking the mail boxes of both our current address (421 E. Sheridan, Lansing, MI 48906) and our soon-to-be address (503 E. Sheridan, Lansing, MI 48906) so we don't miss any of your important information. We'll also leave our answering machine on at our current home (517-371-2538) until we move. After that, you can reach us at 517-484-4976.

Many, many months ago, Ed Galke of New York said The World of Shuffleboard should catch up with the Computer Age for better and faster communication. He was right and we're seeing a move in that direction. Louise Freer of Pennsylvania, secretary of the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame, says: "There are several shufflers in different parts of the country that I enjoy E-mailing back and forth. If there is anyone out there who wants to join us, please send me your address, or E-mail me at: Louise_Freer@Merck.com. It's much faster and easier than the traditional letter, but just as much fun as getting a real letter."

You'll note in this issue that tournament organizers, like Ron Huddleston of Oklahoma and Barbara Arreger (Blinky's) of California, are using this new technology.

As soon as we get moved and our equipment installed, we're going to catch up and join this effective communications network to take us into the next century -- a long overdue move for us.

We realize the "Red Check" method of notifying readers that their subscriptions have lapsed is not the most effective, but it's all our resources allow at this time. We give them some "grace" time, so often they don't realize they've been removed from the list until one month they don't receive it any more. That happened to one of our long-time Texas subscribers who wrote: "I have heard that Texas is barely behind California in shuffleboard support and would not like to be the only cause of this. Texas likes to be the biggest in everything, including shuffleboard." You'll note that still No. 2 Texas needs a few more like him!

G & D

Board Talk Shufflers' Reunion Returning to Indiana, Locker Bar, Marion, June 11-15

For the first time since 1988, the Board Talk's annual Shufflers' Reunion Tournament will be held in Indiana. In the meantime, it has been staged on the East Coast, the West Coast, the Pacific Northwest and the Southwest. Lucky No. 13 will be back in the Hoosier State at the Locker Bar in Marion, hosted by the Voorhis Family, on June 11-15. It will be a memorial tournament in honor of Marisa Voorhis, daughter of Bus and Martha and sister and sister-in-law of Bobby and Deb. Marisa passed away recently after a long and valiant battle with cancer.

The enclosed registration form provides all the details and you are urged to sign up as early as possible because entries will be limited. Events include an ABC Draw, an open/pro singles with graduated entries, a mixed doubles, an open doubles, and a women's singles. The registration form includes information regarding lodging and campgrounds.

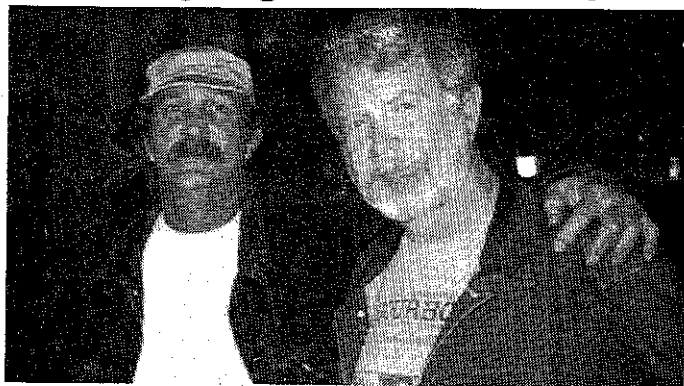
The last "reunion" in Indiana, held at Beef's Shamrock Bar in Waterloo, drew players from all parts of the country. The winners were: (open singles) **Darrol Nelson**, Oregon, 1st; **Mickey Mickens**, New Jersey, 2nd; **Howard Mouton**, Texas, 3rd; and **Jim DeWitt**, Indiana, 4th -- (women's singles) **Deb Somers (Voorhis)**, Indiana, 1st; **Rita Yank**, Pennsylvania, 2nd; **Cheryl Collins**, Michigan, 3rd -- (open doubles) **Bobby Voorhis** and **Jerry Warr**, Indiana, 1st; **Darrol Nelson** and **Mickey Mickens**, 2nd; **John Lukas**, Maryland, and **Don Casula**, Delaware, 3rd -- (mixed doubles) **Janet Cook (Weidner)** and **Howard Mouton**, Texas, 1st; **Buddy and Fritz Broka**, Ohio, 2nd; **Diana Hagen** and **David Williams**, Texas, 3rd. **Al and Von Stewart** of A & M Amusement Service in El Monte, California, were special guests that year, and "the world's longest shuffleboard" provided fun and challenges to shufflers in their spare time.

The traditional door prizes and printed program listing all the winners of the 12 previous reunions and advertising messages for products, services, upcoming events or simply best wishes, will again be part of No. 13. Advertising revenue from the program will be used for door prizes (with recognition to the advertiser), with the remainder going to the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame. If you'd like to be a part of that memorial program, call The Board Talk, 517-371-2538. For information regarding the tournament, call Bobby at The Palace, 765-948-9102, or Bus at The Locker Bar, 765-662-0041.

No. 13 may just be YOUR lucky one!

One important footnote: \$1,000 will be added to the pots of the Pro/Open Singles and Open Doubles, courtesy of The Board Talk, The Locker Bar and the Palace Bar.

Bragging Rights (continued from Page 3)



Family Affair, St. Louis, Missouri, took second place with players Jerry Sabourin and Pat Gainey.



Third place went to V.I.P. Recovery of Springfield, with players Carol Tyler and Connie Blake.

Anderson/Gindt Take First at Blue Goose Mixed Doubles

There were 24 teams competing for honors in the ESA-sanctioned mixed doubles sweetheart tournament at the Blue Goose, Port Orchard, Washington, in February. Owners Dee and Larry Hudson added a \$1,000 bonus to the pot.

Taking first place was the team of Jackie Anderson and Rick Gindt, with Linda Stephenson and Chuck Norris in second. Milady and Dan Hitt finished third and Jim and Michelle Foran were fourth. Taking fifth and sixth were Mike Thorpe and Judy and Mike Waters and Nancy Johnson.

The next big event at the Blue Goose is their first ABC Draw on July 5-6.

Vera and Gene Brown report some more good news from that area -- Cindy Powers from Kelso took first, out of 250 entries, in a slot tournament in Las Vegas. Congratulations, Cindy, on your BIG win!

ESA: "No Secret Formula"

Evergreen Shuffleboard Association secretary Jim Manders says the success of the two-year-old ESA is attracting attention from people around the nation who

are interested in forming state/area associations. "The best advice I can give is to call a meeting, determine what you want to accomplish and then get started," Jim said. "The ESA has no secret formula for success, other than players and sponsors who are willing to help make it work. We've felt our way along and other associations will end up doing the same."

As of March 1, the ESA already had 72 players and 14 sponsors on their membership rolls for 1997. Awarding points for ESA-sanctioned tournaments has increased participation. Also, when there are 20 or more teams in a tournament, players not "in the money" still receive a point for participation. The Shuffleboard Federation sponsors a non-winner draw for entry return.

Royal/Brown Win at Sportsman's

The Sportsman's Lounge in Muncie, Indiana, held a double elimination tournament on March 8. The event attracted 18 teams vying for a pot of \$2,730 with \$100 added to the payout by host Rudy Parris.

Capturing first place honors were Rick Royal and Marcia Brown, with Bobby Voorhis and Tom Massey in second place. Rudy Parris and Sheryl Cockerill finished fourth, with Larry Creakbaum and Jim Long in fourth.

The next event at Sportsman's is a doubles on May 10.

Temperature is up; so is crowd at Harvey's Weekend Tournament

By Dick Gorman

In this beautiful, rolling hill country of Maryland, February and March usually bring 20-40 degree temperatures, with ice and snow. But not the weekend of Feb. 28-March 2 at Harvey's Place, Street, Maryland, when temperatures were in the 70s! The folks who went South to Florida to get warm don't know what they missed. The group from New York who came to the tournament even went out to hit golf balls and do some fishing. What a weekend!

As for the tournament, it really brought people out and it became the highest attended this season. Comments heard from several participants: this is getting to look like the old days when all spots were reserved and paid for two weeks in advance and waiting lists. Host Harvey Comer, who keeps trying to improve his tournaments with new variations says he isn't exactly sure why things are getting better except "we are trying to respond to the wishes of the participants -- and we will keep trying."

Friday night's event was a draw partner with 38 participants who played for an almost \$2100 pot. At Harvey's, we now pay one spot for every four

(continued on Page 8)

Harvey's Place *(continued from Page 7)*

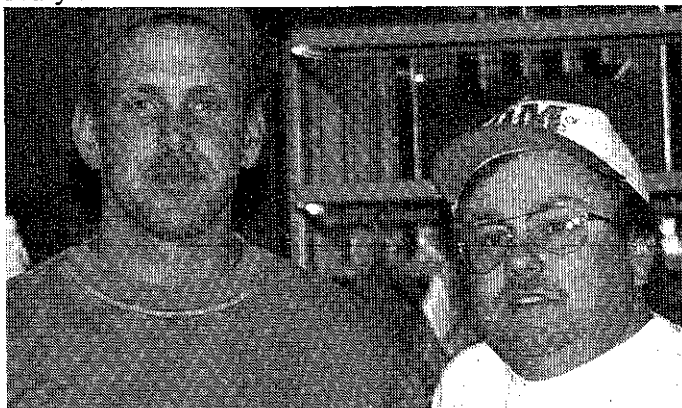
participants, which seems to be a happy solution in the minds of the competitors. Taking first place was our local hero, Buddy Brammer of nearby Rising Sun and his partner, Dick Jeffries (New York Dick), Sherburne.



Buddy Brammer shows his winning style. (Photo by Brenda Wallace)

Second place was taken by Louise Freer, Lansdale, Pennsylvania, and Dale Law, sponsored by Riverside Hotel, Earlville, New York. Third place went to Rick Niblett (Rick's Place), Salisbury, Maryland, and Joe Williams, Ridley Park, Pennsylvania. Fourth and final money spot went to local Jim McDaniels, Darlington, and Dick Smedberg, Long Island, New York.

Saturday's bring partner event was easily accommodated on the four in-house boards, even with 25 teams, no back-to-back boards, and full 15 point games. Almost \$3500 was distributed to the six money-paying spots. First place was won without a loss by Chuck King, Greenwood, Delaware, and his partner, first-time tournament winner here, Wayne Tribbett, Greensboro, Maryland.



Chuck King (right) and partner Wayne Tribbett were winners of the bring partner event at Harvey's. Chuck is shown here with J.B. Armour of Rising Sun, who won his first tournament earlier in February. (Photo by Brenda)

Second place was won by the always formidable team of Al DiBella, Upper Darby, Pa., and Louise Freer. Third place went to Len Dell of Baltimore and Rick Niblett. Fourth place was won by Judith Iseman, Chestertown,

Maryland, and Dick Smedberg. Fifth place went to the sponsored entry from Riverside Hotel, Earlville, NY (big tournament there May 22-25), Dale Law and Bob White. Sixth and final money spot went to Lindsay Hall, Baltimore, and Butch Kelly, Springfield, Pa.

The next tournament at Harvey's is scheduled for April 11-13 with a Friday night draw partner, Saturday bring partner, and an A-B draw, limited calcutta event on Sunday. We'd like anybody to come, but suggest you call Harvey or Darlyene at 410-836-8881 to make your reservations or find out more information.

D's Frontier Inaugural Success!

The inaugural tournament at D's Frontier, Omaha, Nebraska, was held on Feb. 28-March 2. It was a \$500 added open doubles attracting 18 teams. With the team sale, the total pot was \$3,072.



Top honors went to Denny Busch and Bill Fredricks, who never lost a game.



Jay Watson and Chuck Busch, winners of the "comeback award," had to win five games in the loser's bracket to take second place.

(continued on Page 10)

We're Moving!

*The new address of George & Donna Wilber
and The Board Talk is:*

503 E. Sheridan Rd., Lansing, MI 48906

D's Frontier (continued from Page 8)



Scotty Dog and Mike Roach took third place in D's Frontier first tournament.



Local board players Maggie Zion and Marnie Pearsons finished fourth in the field of 18 teams.

"Special thanks to Mike Roach for running a good tournament," said host Dan Perrigo. "It was our first tournament and was such a great success, we can't wait 'til next year. Thanks to everyone involved."

(Editor's Note: D's Frontier, located at 8516 North 30th St. in Omaha, is a new member of our national shuffleboard network. Stop by and welcome them!)

MORE NEBRASKA ACTION

By Annie Sloger

Best of Best Shoot It Out in Lincoln

Some of the best shooters in the state came to Arnold's in Lincoln, Nebraska on Feb. 23 to find out exactly who was the best. Twenty-one teams entered this open doubles tournament.

Special thanks to Maggie Worley and Steve Stutzman for running a great tournament and for adding \$750 to the pot. That brought the total prize money to \$1,590. Thanks to the Omaha players and the local players for making this tourney quite entertaining and very successful. A good time was had by all!

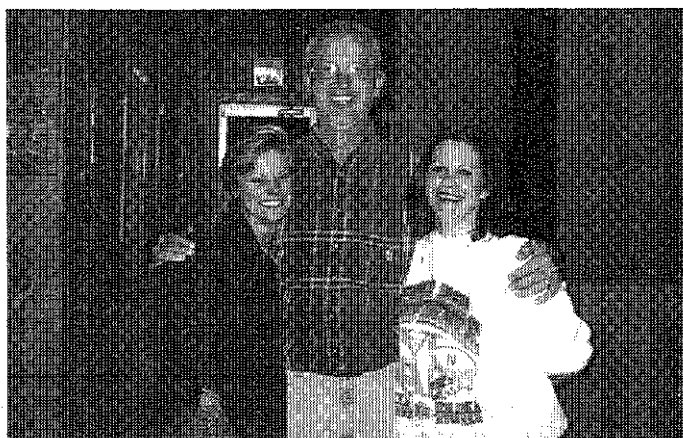
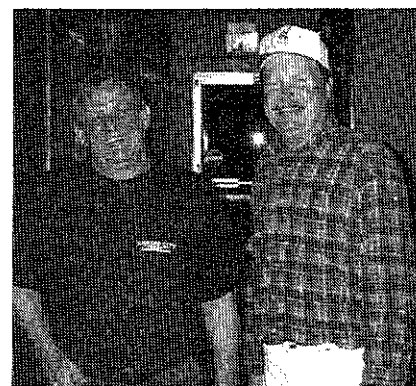
The top six teams that finished in the money were:

Larry Laws and Mike Roach, 1st; Paul Leacox and Paul Moellor, 2nd; Vicki Semants and Annie Sloger, 3rd; Phil Sutko and Jim Filkins, 4th; Joe Rahn and Betty Barney, Maggie Worley and Steve Stutzman, 5th and 6th.



Host Steve Stutzman (left) congratulates Larry Laws and Mike Roach on their first place finish.

Paul Leacox and Paul Moeller were pleased with their second place honors.



Obviously enjoying his hosting duties, Steve congratulates third-place winners Vicki Simants and Annie Sloger.

Nebraska Celebrates 20 Years

On March 6-9, 31 teams entered the annual Hall of Fame open doubles tournament at Joe Banana's in Omaha, hosted by Joe and Connie Monastero. This tourney always draws a large crowd and, as the Hall celebrates its 20th year, it was the largest ever. With an

entry fee of \$30 per team and Joe and Connie adding \$500 to the pot, the total prize money was \$1,430, shared by the top six teams.

First place went to Gwyn Orsi and "rookie" Todd Christensen.



Linda Ritter and Frank Orsi took third place.

Taking second place honors were Bill Stutzman and Nell Coomes.



Other winners were Bill Simants and Mike Roach, 4th; Jim Keller and Annie Sloger, Scott Rangel and Joanne Waller, 5th and 6th.



This year's inductees into the Nebraska Hall of Fame were Dean Heinssen and Jim Keller.

Both men are well deserving of this honor. Jim has been president of the Classic "A" League since it started. He has taken many beginners under his wing and made them great players. Dean, a former bar owner, has worked hard to keep the leagues throughout the city together. Both men are great shooters.

Thanks to all the wonderful players who entered this 20th year event and special thanks to Budweiser for donating jackets, T-shirts and caps.

Thorpes Prevail at Old Edison

By Phil DePree

At the 12th Annual Old Edison Inn Mixed Doubles Tournament, held March 8-9 in Edison, Washington, Mike and Hazel Thorpe became the first husband-wife team to claim the championship, beating Larry Pearson and Linda Steffenson two out of three to complete a successful run through the winner's bracket.

Mike and Hazel celebrate their first-place finish in the Old Edison Inn's mixed doubles tourney.



Linda Steffenson of Tacoma and Larry Pearson, Sedro-Woolley, finished a strong second.



The "winner's jinx" (no team has repeated as champions in the last six tourneys) got the best of defending champs Doug DeBois and Tina Olson, who fell to third this year.

Doug DeBois of Ranier, Oregon, and Tina Olson of Kelso, Washington, now have a third place to go with a second and last year's first.



Sharon McDonnell and Tim Nugent of the Seattle area shot well to claim fourth place. They were followed by former champs Larry Sawyer and Gail McCary, who tied for fifth with Russ and Sue Miller.

An A-B draw on Friday night was won by Jim Foran and Dave Thomas, who is so new to competition, he says he has never even played in a meat shoot!

(continued on Page 12)

Old Edison Inn *(continued from Page 11)*

Thanks once again to owners Mini and Sandy and their efficient bar crew of Bob, Frances and Cecil for ensuring everybody had a great weekend. Also, kudos to Russ Miller, Caveman, and Mike Waters for their help and advice throughout the tourney, and to the Blau Oyster Company, the Kesselring Gun Shop, the Old Edison Inn, and Eve Anderson for their donations for door prize drawings. And special thanks to Rose Colton for stepping up as official tourney photographer.

This event is one of two point tournaments at the Old Edison Inn, sanctioned by the Evergreen Shuffleboard Association. The next is the 3rd Annual Open Doubles, set for Sept. 13-14.

Upcoming Events *(continued from Page 5)***California****ABC BLIND DRAW AT CC'S, ANAHEIM, APRIL 4-6**

CC's Sports Bar, located at the Anaheim Ramada Inn, 1331 E. Katella Ave. in Anaheim, will host an ABC Blind Draw on April 4-6. Entry fee is \$20 per person and will be a double elimination, 2 out of 3 event. Bob Brunskill will be the tournament director.

Michigan**2ND ANNUAL MIXED WEEKEND AT WETLANDS, APRIL 18-20**

Action at the Wetlands Bar & Grill, 1008 N. Woodward Ave., Royal Oak, Michigan, for the 2nd Annual Mixed Weekend, starts on Friday night with a mixed doubles, \$20 per player, which will finish on Saturday afternoon. Men's and Ladies' singles, \$40 and \$20 respectively, follow immediately after the conclusion of the mixed.

All three events are single game, double elimination, 15 point games.

For more information, call John McDermott at The Shuffleboard Federation, 810-380-9300, or Mike Papa at Wetlands, 810-548-2626.

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Virgin Looking *(continued from Page 2)*

John Cason was gone! He had just disappeared into the shadows. Dad-gum-it! I went into the bar past the beans and cornbread, past the pool tables, and watched the men's room door long enough to know that John wasn't in there. I looked outside in the parking lot and didn't see John. Jimmy L saw me come back in and asked, "Sue, is anything wrong?" and I said, "No, I was just getting a breath of fresh air."

I went back in and ate my beans and cornbread and my big chunk of raw onion, drank my Coke and visited with a few more people. I looked across the room and there sat John Cason at his table. I still don't have a clue where he went.

Well, the tournament was over for me, so I went back to my motel. The furnace in my room sounded like a freight train coming through every time it came on. Between the furnace, the beans and cornbread and that big chunk of raw onion, I didn't get a whole lot of sleep. I woke up feeling not too bad considering the wear and tear on my body and nerves the night before.

While I was in the shower, I thought: well, I'm going to come back here to Jimmy L's for another tournament and I'm only going to eat half as many beans and cornbread and not even go near them big ole chunks of raw onions, and get somebody to help me watch John Cason -- and see how close I can come to winning one.

Sue Lewis (still the virgin), Midwest City, Oklahoma

Anyone who can make losing such an adventure is a winner, Sue! Thanks for sharing. If we remember correctly, it was at the Arbuckle Open when John Cason first intrigued you with his disappearance into the shadows. Here's another opportunity to solve that mystery -- and for you to lose your "virgin" status.

11th Annual Arbuckle Open Coming Up

I would like to announce the 11th Annual Arbuckle Open to be held at Prim's Wagon Wheel, Wynnewood, Oklahoma, May 22 through May 26. Having been unable to find a larger facility in this area, and in keeping with Arbuckle Open tradition, -1s and 0's will not be allowed. Sorry 0's, but this also includes me.

The "Open" came into being by giving the novice players a tournament to call their own, not having to pay high entry fees, and not having to compete with the pros for a win. Therefore, 1's and 2's will be Division I, and 3's and above will be Division II. The tournament format will be the same as in the past, with the exception that all entry fees will be \$25 per person, either division.

Watch next month's Board Talk for more information. In the meantime, if anyone has questions, they can call me at 405-665-2566 after 7 p.m. CST.

Alan B. Primrose, Wynnewood, Oklahoma

Whoops, Sue, John probably doesn't qualify, but virgins are welcome.

Good News from Bev Lukens

My daughter Michelle just had a test done at UCLA and they found her to be cancer free! We are absolutely ecstatic and are totally convinced that prayer healed her and we want to thank all our shuffleboard friends who believed with us that God would heal her.

Beverly Lukens, Seal Beach, California

We rejoice with you and Bob, Bev! Thanks for the good news.

Glen -- On the Road Again

The tourney at Blinky's in Santa Clara, California, went real good. Darrol and I finished first in the doubles with Fred Thuman and Little George from Stockton in second. They came at us with 8 points George stole from Darrol with the hammer. The next hammer George lagged a 4 and the next a 3. This guy wanted to win and they did win the first match. We were in the winner's bracket and won the second match. It was a real pleasure to play with Darrol again. The last time we played together was at Temecula a few years back (I think we won that one, too).

It was good to see and compete with all the players there. Joe Hudson from Sacramento is back playing more and getting better. Nick Chaffin from Roseville, we have played or competed against each other for 20 or 30 years. Nick is a great player. Hal Perry, Steve Perry, Fred Thuman, tournament director Rick Thomas, did a great job as usual. George (local), Laggin Loren, Karl Spickelmier, Bubba Warren -- all these guys were in the singles also and Nelson Jennings, the auctioneer, did play in the doubles. A great tourney. Thanks to Blinky and all his staff for the effort.

I went on down to the Dixie Belle for the Friday night draw and got to play as partners with the legendary George Lucas (78) and Joe Nino (71). I played three or four round robins and won one with Kirk. Then we played Joe Nino and Billy Maxwell. It was getting late and everyone except 71-year-old Joe Nino was getting tired. He and Billy Maxwell beat Kirk and me two in a row. He did the same to me in '93 at the Edgewood when

Bud Broka and I went through there on our way to Vegas. Joe Nino and Kirk beat us the last round robin of the night for the \$300 pot. Does this guy ever quit? Not until the action is over. It was and is always a pleasure to compete against and play as partners with the likes of Joe Nino and George Lucas. These guys and a few more in that area are legends of the game and the Hall of Fame is not too far away for them.

I went by and stayed a couple days with John Fisher, his sister Criss and hubby Paul and a 100-lb. Lab called Willie. They live in the small town of Orange. John says he will be moving back to the state of Washington where his roots are. He says that he and Dan Hitt will be partners in a business venture and will come to the Southwest Open as partners also. He will be moving before the year is over and will be missed in the L.A. area. Good luck to John on his new venture. I enjoyed visiting with all of them, including Willie.

On the way back, we stopped at Amarillo. Janet, as you all know as an O in the shuffleboard rating system, has a club with her brother Chuck called the Stage Coach. They have one shuffleboard, two pool tables, two dart boards, and some young players that Janet is training for the Big Time. We played some Friday and then most of the day Saturday. Had a great time with Danny Hersom, Becky, Brady and Gwen Jones. Brady is a great player who has not been playing and he lasted all night. Gwen purchased the first Hall of Fame jacket. She said: "I will wear it every day to tell folks about the Shuffleboard Hall of Fame." Anyone who wants a jacket with their name or initials and the Hall of Fame logo, write to me at 3220 Cragg, Oklahoma City, OK 73150.

Fred Harris, one of the old-timers in Amarillo, won on Saturday, lost on Friday. He says it's hard to win them all. I have been going through Amarillo since the '60s and have always had a great time playing shuffleboard and have accumulated a few friends there. Best of luck to Janet and Chuck for opening and running a shuffleboard club for young and old alike. They say come on by and they will get you a game.

Glen Davidson, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

The National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame

From Secretary Louise Freer:

In last month's issue, Glen mentioned that we weren't able to have our annual meeting at the PCSA tournament. Unfortunately, arranging to have all six of us from such geographically diverse areas at the same place and at the same time has proved to be a little tougher than we originally hoped. This means that some of the decisions,

both individual and philosophic, were not discussed and voted upon. However, we do feel that we are making significant progress in our achievements.

We have begun the long task of meeting the most important of our goals: the recognition of the important people in our sport. For so long and for so many people, recognition of their efforts and skill in the game have gone mostly unrecognized except on a local or limited regional basis. By inducting a player into the Hall of Fame, our ultimate goal is that player becoming more recognizable to people from all over the country, not just a small area.

As with every other fledgling organization, we must take baby steps toward the legitimacy that other sports' Halls of Fame enjoy. They, too, had to start somewhere! Unfortunately, as with every other arena in life, there are people who are supporters and people who are not. It is distressing to realize that the progress of the Hall of Fame has been hindered by those non-supporters. I firmly believe that much, much more could be accomplished if more people got involved. But, in the meantime, we'll just keep plugging away until it gets to where it should be.

Little by little, the caring people of this sport are beginning to make a difference, and it's exciting to see how these people have expanded our resources tremendously just by getting involved. Some of the wonderful supporters of the National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame are: the people of the Maryland/Delaware State and Oklahoma State committees, the Michigan State Hall of Fame, George and Donna Wilber, The Shuffleboard Federation, Playfair, Al and Von Stewart, Fritz Broka, Al Ryan, Alan Primrose, Jack Scott, Fred Thuman, Steve Blue, Ray Boyett, and the many other people who have contributed financially. These people I mention specifically because, even though every contributor is just as important as they are, they have contributed valuable time and ideas, and their involvement is to be commended. The fact that more and more people are getting involved is significant progress.

As time goes on, we hope that more and more people become involved on the state level in the form of state Halls of Fame. By layering the responsibility in this manner, we hope to accomplish several things. First, "many hands make light work." By delegating the responsibility of the review and gathering of information, signatures, etc., it is likely that many more deserving people get their rightful recognition. It will also make our job easier and more accurate in evaluating whether or not a player or a promoter deserves national recognition, since that player would have already garnered strong local support.

Of the six top shuffleboard states, both Oklahoma and Michigan already have organizations that will help to

(continued on Page 19)

1997 CALENDAR OF SHUFFLEBOARD EVENTS

APRIL 1997

April 3-6

Spring Nationals
Dew Drop Inn
Waterloo, New York

April 4

A-B Draw
J & C's Tavern
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

April 4-5

Annual Bring Partner Tourney
Corner Tavern
Bow, Washington

April 4-6

3-Event Tournament
Avons Local 14
Toledo, Ohio

April 4-6

Open Doubles
Harold's
Omaha, Nebraska

April 4-6

ABC Blind Draw
CC's Sports Bar
Anaheim, California

April 5

Open Doubles
Get-A-Way
Anderson, Indiana

April 11-13

3-Event Tournament
Harvey's Place
Street, Maryland

April 11-13

Open Doubles/A-B Draw
My Way
Omaha, Nebraska

April 12

Arnold Cross Memorial Doubles
Mississinewa Tavern
Eaton, Indiana

April 18-20

Heartland Handicap
American Legion Post #73
Del City, Oklahoma

April 18-20

BZ's 13th Annual Classic
BZ's
Burien, Washington

April 18-20

Div. I & Under Singles/Doubles
The Balloon Inn
Arvada, Colorado

April 18-20

2nd Mixed Weekend Tourney
Wetlands Bar & Grill
Royal Oak, Michigan

April 18-20

3-Event Tournament
J & C's Tavern
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

April 19-20

1st Annual Spring Open
Amvet Post 26
Pendleton, Indiana

April 18-19

Spring Double Dipper
Sonny Boys
Cuba, Missouri

April 25-26

1st Grey Eagle AB Draw
Family Sports Bar
St. Louis, Missouri

April 25-27

Bill Gibbs Memorial Tourney
Family Billiards (The Bar)
Glendale, Arizona

April 26

Board Talk Reunion Qualifier
The Palace Bar
Fairmount, Indiana

MAY 1997

May 1-4

Spring Tourney
The Gold Nugget Club
Arlington, Texas

May 2

A-B Draw
J & C's Tavern
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

May 3

36th Annual Spring Doubles
American Legion 424
Bourbon, Indiana

May 3-4

7th Annual Draw Partner
Shamrock Tavern
Longview, Washington

May 9-11

3-Event Tournament
Frankie's Sports Pub
Olympia, Washington

May 10

Doubles Tournament
Sportsman's Bar
Muncie, Indiana

May 22-25

4-Event Tournament
Riverside Hotel
Earlville, New York

May 22-25

16th Annual Lilac City Memorial
Rod's Drive Inn Tavern
Spokane, Washington

May 22-26

11th Annual Arbuckle Open
Prim's Wagon Wheel
Wynnewood, Oklahoma

May 23-25

Div. II & Under Singles/Doubles
The Balloon Inn
Arvada, Colorado

May 23-26

4th Memorial Day Tournament
Wetlands Bar & Grill
Royal Oak, Michigan

May 23-26

Memorial Day Tournament
Tolo Tavern
Central Point, Oregon

May 23-26

Memorial Day Tournament
Blinky's
Santa Clara, California

1997 CALENDAR OF SHUFFLEBOARD EVENTS

JUNE 1997

June 6

A-B Draw
J & C's Tavern
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

June 6-7

Mid-Summer Double Dipper
Sonny Boys
Cuba, Missouri

June 11-15

13th Annual Board Talk
Shufflers' Reunion Tournament
Locker Bar
Marion, Indiana

June 19-22

8th Annual Balloon Open
The Balloon Inn
Arvada, Colorado

June 21-22

Mixed Doubles
Shamrock Tavern
Longview, Washington

June 27-28

1st Grey Eagle Open Draft Team
Family Sports Bar
St. Louis, Missouri

JULY 1997

July 1-6

Southwest Open
American Legion Post 73
Del City, Oklahoma

July 2-6

5th Annual 4th of July Tourney
The Dixie Belle
Downey, California

July 5-6

ABC Draw
Blue Goose
Port Orchard, Washington

AUGUST 1997

July 30-Aug. 3

Grand Masters Plus
Whistling Oyster
Quilcene, Washington

Aug. 14-17

Pro-Am Draw and Singles
The Balloon Inn
Arvada, Colorado

Aug. 22-23

3rd St. Louis Shootout
Family Sports Bar
St. Louis, Missouri

Aug. 25-31

Labor Day Tournament
Blinky's
Santa Clara, California

Aug. 27-Sept. 1

Texas Open
The Gold Nugget Club
Arlington, Texas

Aug. 28-31

Labor Day Tournament
Tolo Tavern
Central Point, Oregon

Aug. 28-31

Crazy Canucks Labor Day
Weekend Tournament
AN & AF Club #68
Vancouver, B.C., Canada

SEPTEMBER 1997

Sept. 4-7

Skip's/Board Talk Fall Bash
Skip's Lounge
Houghton Lake, Michigan

Sept. 13-14

3rd Annual Open Doubles
Old Edison Inn
Edison, Washington

Sept. 19-20

Open Draw Partner
Family Sports Bar
St. Louis, Missouri

Sept. 19-21

3rd Annual Ladies' Weekend
Wetlands Bar & Grill
Royal Oak, Michigan

OCTOBER 1997

Oct. 4

30th Annual Fall Doubles
American Legion
Bourbon, Indiana

Oct. 9-12

Division I Singles & Doubles
Balloon Inn
Arvada, Colorado

Oct. 10-11

1st Missouri Doubles Champs
Family Sports Bar
St. Louis, Missouri

Oct. 18-19

Nelson/Buhl Bring Partner
Shamrock Tavern
Longview, Washington

Oct. 24-25

Fall Double Dipper
Sonny Boys
Cuba, Missouri

Oct. 27-Nov. 2

North American Championships
Sands Regency Hotel/Casino
Reno, Nevada

NOVEMBER 1997

Nov. 15-16

Over 55 Tourney
Shamrock Tavern
Longview, Washington

Nov. 26-30

13th Annual Thanksgiving
Classic
The Gold Nugget
Arlington, Texas

Nov. 28-30

Pennsylvania State
Championships
J & C's Tavern
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Nov. 28-30

A-B Draw Tournament
BZ's
Burien, Washington

Nov. 28-30

Thanksgiving Tournament
Tolo Tavern
Central Point, Oregon

***WHOOPS! We ran out of room.
December upcoming events will
be on the next calendar.***

Frisko Eddie's Revenge: The Return

A series by Balboa Ron Schweikert

(In the last episode, Frisko Eddie was in a big money game with Indiana Joe. Indiana was just about to make the shot that he thought would give him the victory and the purse.)

The weight looked good, and felt good, as Indiana Joe made his left-cross release. It had to be a perfect shot. Everyone held their breath as the weight started down its path. Then, as luck would have it, the weight barely skimmed the right side of Eddie's back weight, which put it off-course to the right. It was just enough so it missed the deuce that was sitting on the right rail!

The game was over -- 15 to 13. Eddie had won! Lil and Tim both gave Eddie a big hug then, while Indiana stood at the end of the table, shaking his head in disbelief.

The game was close enough so that Indiana wanted one more shot at it. They could only come up with \$800 for the game. Lil accepted their "back-jack," and gave the go-ahead. The board was prepared then, and the action started.

The game was close for the first half, and then Eddie broke things open with a 4-lag. Indiana had to gamble now, but it didn't pay off. Eddie was out-thinking and out-stroking him right down the line. It ended up 15 to 10, Eddie's favor. It was over.

The looks of serious disappointment and dejection on the faces of Indiana and The Wrapper were contrasted by the joy and cheering from the winner's side. The two men's heads were kind of low when Eddie shook hands with them.

Someone had to win....someone had to lose. They were professionals and refused Eddie's offer for "traveling money." They were smart enough to quit while they still had a little bit of a "stake" to start back up with at another time, and another place. They were both satisfied though that they had connected up with some real talent in this kid called "Frisko Eddie." The word would really start to get out now.

They all had drinks then -- several of them. By the time the smoke had cleared, it was decided (by Tim) that they had better spend one more night with him before they tried to take off.

They were all pretty happy as they loaded into Tim's Bronco. It was a cheerful ride to his house, filled with many jokes and old war stories. They even celebrated by stopping off at the good steak house in Puyallup for another excellent steak dinner.

After they got to Tim's, they made a count of the winnings. Including the side-bets, they had come out over \$6,000 to the good. Not bad for one day's work! They were all pretty exhausted by now, so they decided to turn

in so they could get an early start in the morning.

The intense action of the past few days had taken its toll on Tim. He was still sound asleep when Lil and Eddie were ready to leave in the morning. Lil left him a nice note of thanks before they left. Eddie felt like he was leaving a real friend....and a real gentleman.

After packing their things in the rental, they were on the road again. After a short drive, they approached the same juncture of 512 and I-5, as they had the day before. As then, they were faced with the choice of either turning right on I-5 to the airport, or hanging a left and heading south.

This was a tough decision for Lil. If they turned south toward Oregon, they would have to face one man she didn't think they were ready for yet. She had explained all this to Eddie.

As they got near the intersection, Eddie asked: "Well, my dear, which way do we turn? I feel like I can beat anyone in the world right now!"

Lil's mind was really buzzing. When she was finally forced to speak up, she said: "To hell with it -- turn to the....."

--CONTINUED NEXT MONTH--

Which way will they turn and how will that decision impact on the adventures of Frisko Eddie and Long Beach Lil? Will they meet the man Lil doesn't think they're quite ready for? Don't miss the next episode.

Author Balbo Ron has a new address: Ron Schweikert, 1140 Coral Desert Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89123. If you have story ideas or just want to let him know you are enjoying his series, we encourage you to write to him. Your positive feedback is the only "pay" he receives for entertaining our readers every month.

Additions to "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." Listing

The following shuffleboard establishments have joined our national network since the last "Play Your Way Across the U.S.A." was published in March. Please add them to your list, stop in and welcome them during your travels, and thank them for their support of your sport.

Indiana:

• American Legion Post 223, Syracuse; phone 219-457-3261

Missouri:

• Gravy's, 3165 S. Campbell, Springfield

• Family Sports Bar, 13154 Tesson Ferry, St. Louis; phone 314-842-3863

Hall of Fame *(continued from Page 15)*

recognize players in their states. California, Texas, Indiana, and Washington would be excellent states to continue this trend. Talk to the board member from your state (O.K., so Texas doesn't have one yet -- but the rest do!) to see if there's a way that you can help. And, as always, please feel free to contact me or any other board members with your ideas, suggestions, and criticisms.

Louise Freer, 189 Barry Avenue, Lansdale PA 19446
Phone: 215-661-0108 (home) or 610-397-7586

From President Glen Davidson:

While I was in California, I visited with Bubba (Rich) Warren, who is taking leadership in forming the state Hall of Fame there, along with Steve Perry, John Fisher and Billy Chiles, who have agreed to serve on the committee. Thanks to all of them. We look forward to their reports of progress.

I will be headed East for another group to be formed. I hope by the end of the year, all states will be underway in the formation of committees. Please call or write if you need assistance.

At this time, all we have for a permanent National Shuffleboard Hall of Fame are some trophies, pictures and films. When we set them up in a building somewhere, I hope it will be permanent. I, for one, don't want to move all the artifacts or whatever we have. But thanks to Steve Blue for the offer. If any of you have artifacts to contribute to the NSHF, please let us know.

I have a film of the inductees to date. If anyone is interested, \$100 goes to the Hall of Fame and you will have the first of its kind. Get something for your money and donate to a worthy cause at the same time.

Glen Davidson, 3220 Cragg, Oklahoma City, OK 73150
Phone: 405-733-4430

To those states that have or are in the process of forming committees, you are welcome to use the pages of The Board Talk to tell The World of Shuffleboard the progress you are making. Your "baby steps," as Louise so aptly describes it, can perhaps help others get through their growing pains a little easier. Editorially, we strongly support the state Hall of Fame structure and urge you to get behind it with your available resources. Those resources are there -- all you have to do is surface them, like Michigan did. We realize there's only one Betty Parrish and we're not about to clone her, but there's bound to be some like her in every state.

Glen, in the move to smaller quarters, we are having to "weed out" some of our files. Next time you're in our area, stop in and see if we have any "artifacts."

Law/Prosser Win at Sherburne Legion Mixed Doubles

On Friday, Feb. 21, the Sherburne (New York) American Legion held \$10 round robins. Dick Jeffries and Dick Losee came out on top of a field of 24 players, with Bob Brooks and Doug Fridley Jr. in second. Helen Fuller and Rita Truax tied with Fred Truax and Ken VanZile for third place.

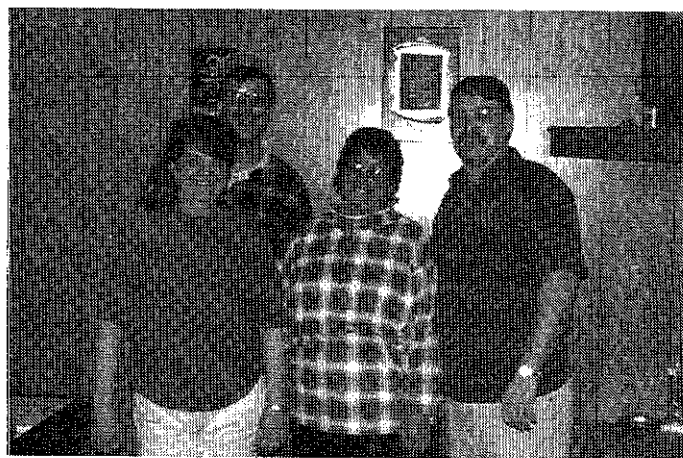
A second round robin was held with Dale Law and Rita Truax finishing first. Bob Brooks and Dick Losee came in second. Tom Lattenhauer and Brian Loundsbury tied with Ryan Fuller and Ken VanZile for third.

On Saturday, 17 teams entered the \$40 limited calcutta mixed doubles event. Dale Law and Ki Prosser captured first place. Second place went to Chris Klugh and Ken VanZile. Angela Jones and Dick Losee finished third, with Brenda Prosser and Bob White in fourth.

"Since the turnout was much greater than expected, more mixed tournaments will be scheduled," reports Dale Law. The next mixed event will be held at the Riverside Hotel in May.



First and second place winners in the mixed doubles were Dale Law and Ki "Nellie" Prosser (right), and Ken VanZile and Chris Klugh.



Angela Jones and Dick Losee (right) finished third, with Brenda Prosser and Bob White in fourth place.

Cruel Winter Doesn't Cool HOT Action in Michigan

By John McDermott

The 1st Annual Saginaw Valley Open, hosted by Dave Willett of M.J. McCabes Bar & Grill in Saginaw, and the 3rd Annual St. Patrick's Day Tournament, hosted by Mike Papa of Wetlands Bar & Grill in Royal Oak, had a few things in common. Both tournaments consisted of the same three events: A-B Draw Partners, Open Singles and Open Doubles. They were also run by The Shuffleboard Federation, with extra boards provided by Decker Shuffleboard of Toledo, Ohio.

The most striking similarity, however, was the backdrop provided by Mother Nature in the form of freezing rain, followed by snow and gale force winds. In fact, on the first day of the Saginaw Valley Open, virtually every car in the parking lot had its locks and doors frozen. It took almost two hours after the bar closed to finally get everyone into their cars and on their way back to their homes or hotels.

Saginaw Valley Open

In the Saginaw Valley Open, the A-B Draw saw one of the state's top players, Frank Blade, draw Terry Leivo, one of the young up-and-comers from the Bay City, Michigan area. They combined to get Terry his first tournament win. Terry's brother, Tom, won his first tournament last fall as a member of the three-person team that included Bobby Voorhis and Joanna Ingoglia in the ABC team event at the 1996 Skip's Lounge/Board Talk Tournament.

Second place went to Betty Parrish, who is spearheading the effort to establish a Michigan Shuffleboard Hall of Fame, and Gary Young of Bay City. Third place went to John Addington and Chris Passariello. John is from one of Michigan's new tournament spots, the Club Car Lounge in Durand. Fourth place went to Chuck Ricklefs and George Wilber.

In the Open Singles, Frank Blade went undefeated to capture first-place honors. Second place went to Chris Passariello, who defeated Bill Meyer of Sterling Heights in the loser's bracket finals. In fourth place was Bud Spier, another of the Bay City contingent.

As the Open Doubles wound down, Frank Blade had his eyes on a sweep of all three events. But the team of John Myles and Gary Young had another idea, as they came through the loser's bracket to defeat Frank and his partner, Bjerne Sunde. Third place went to the always tough team of Bill Meyer and Mike Papa.

3rd Annual St. Pat's Tourney, Wetlands

At the Wetlands 3rd Annual St. Patrick's Day Tournament, we asked ourselves the same question we ask every year: why are we doing a tournament on this

weekend? It was standing-room only on Friday night as the A-B Draw began. As with all events of this type, there were more "B" players than "A" players. The way we handle this situation is to draw each of the "A" players a partner from the "B" players, then the remaining "B" players draw amongst themselves. This time, two of the "B" players who drew each other went on to win, as locals Chris Lemieux and Roger Mills took first place by defeating Betty Parrish and Bjerne Sunde in the first game of the finals, to remain undefeated. Third place went to Kim Parrish and Roland Metivier who got to the loser's bracket finals by defeating Jeff Cottrell and Paul Sherman.

Going undefeated is an extremely rare occurrence at Wetlands, where the locals give it the nickname of "Double Dip Bar & Grill." The next two events would reinforce that. On Saturday night, the doubles finals matched up winner's bracket champs, Bill Meyer and host Mike Papa, against the team of Mike Chamarro and John McDermott, whose only loss was to Meyer and Papa. In the end, it was too many 4-lags as Chamarro and McDermott came out of the loser's bracket to take first place. Frank Blade and Bjerne Sunde finished third while fourth went to Roland Metivier and John Tischler.

The double-dipping didn't end there as John McDermott came out of the loser's bracket to take the singles by beating doubles partner Mike Chamarro, who has recently returned to the tournament scene after nearly a 10-year absence. Bjerne Sunde finished up a solid weekend in which he finished in the money in all three events by finishing third, just ahead of Mike Papa.

Players were treated to free breakfasts on the weekend. Host Mike Papa informs us that this will be a permanent feature of future Wetlands tournaments, the next of which is the 2nd Annual Mixed Weekend. See the Upcoming Events section for more information.

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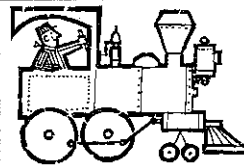
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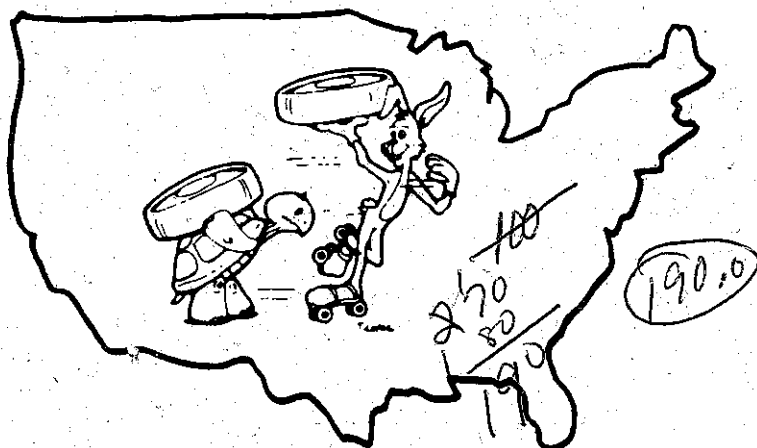
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